

**PATENT** Attorney Docket No.: SAM-0266

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ku, et al.

09/992,980 Serial No.:

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November 6, 2001

Examiner: Lee, C.

Group Art Unit: 2825

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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METHOD OF FORMING A METAL GATE ELECTRODE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

<u>AMENDMENT A</u>

Sir:

CHNOLOGY CENTER 280 This is in response to the Office Action mailed on December 26, 2002. The applicants request a two-month extension of the time allowed for response. A petition for the extension and the extension fee are enclosed.

Please amend the application as follows:

## In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 3 line 12 through page 4 line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph.

- - However, the selective oxidation process described above has a narrow process margin, and it is difficult to adjust the partial pressures of the hydrogen gas and H<sub>2</sub>O to only oxidize the silicon. Accordingly, as shown in Fig. 2A, a small amount of the tungsten is oxidized, so that tungsten oxide 12c is formed on side walls of the tungsten layer 16. As shown in Fig. 2B, the

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